

# DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

**Occupational Safety and Health Administration** 

Healthcare Worker Whistleblower Stakeholder Meeting

[Docket No. OSHA-2018-0005]

**AGENCY:** Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Labor.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is announcing a public meeting to solicit comments and suggestions from stakeholders on issues facing the agency in the administration of the whistleblower laws it enforces.

**DATES:** The public meeting will be held on May 18, 2022, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., ET via telephone and virtually via Zoom. Persons interested in attending the meeting must register by May 11, 2022. In addition, comments relating to the "Scope of Meeting" section of this document must be submitted by May 11, 2022.

### **ADDRESSES:**

Electronically: You may submit materials, including attachments, electronically at <a href="http://www.regulations.gov">http://www.regulations.gov</a>, which is the Federal eRulemaking portal. Follow the online instructions for submissions. All comments should be identified with Docket No. OSHA-2018-0005.

Registration to Attend and/or to Participate in the Meeting: If you wish to attend the public meeting, make an oral presentation at the meeting, or participate in the meeting, you must register using this link: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/healthcare-worker-whistleblower-stakeholder-meeting-tickets-292455832267 or this link for registration in Spanish https://www.eventbrite.com/e/entradas-reunion-para-partes-interesadas-sobre-los-denunciantes-que-son-trabajadores-293378431787 by close of business on May 11, 2022. Each participant will be allowed to speak for up to 5 minutes.

If there is extra time at the end of the meeting, participants may be given extra time to speak. There is no fee to register for the public meeting. After reviewing the requests to present, OSHA will contact each participant prior to the meeting to inform them of the speaking order. We will provide Spanish-language translation.

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

For press inquiries: Mr. Frank Meilinger, Director, OSHA Office of Communications, U.S. Department of Labor; telephone: (202) 693-1999; e-mail: meilinger.francis2@dol.gov.

For general information: Mr. Anthony Rosa, Deputy Director, OSHA

Directorate of Whistleblower Protection Programs, U.S. Department of Labor; telephone:

(202) 693-2199; e-mail: osha.dwpp@dol.gov.

## **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

# A. Scope of Meeting

OSHA is interested in obtaining information from the public on key issues facing the agency's whistleblower program. This meeting is the ninth in a series of meetings requesting public input on this program. The agency is seeking suggestions on how it can improve the program, particularly where healthcare workers are concerned. Please note that the agency does not have the authority to change the statutory language and requirements of the laws it enforces. In particular, the agency invites input on the following:

- 1. How can OSHA deliver better whistleblower customer service?
- 2. What kind of assistance can OSHA provide to help explain the agency's whistleblower laws to employees and employers?
- 3. What can OSHA do to ensure that healthcare workers are protected from retaliation for raising concerns related to COVID-19?

### **B.** Request for Comments

Regardless of attendance at the public meeting, interested persons may submit written or electronic comments (see "ADDRESSES" above). Electronic comments include recorded oral comments. Comments may be submitted in any language. Submit a single copy of electronic comments or two paper copies of any mailed comments. To permit time for interested persons to submit data, information, or views on the issues in the "Scope of Meeting" section of this notice, please submit comments by May 11, 2022, and include Docket No. OSHA-2018-0005. If you have questions regarding how to submit comments, please contact <code>osha.dwpp@dol.gov</code> or 202-693-2199.

## C. Access to the Public Record

Electronic copies of this *Federal Register* notice are available at: http://www.regulations.gov. This notice, as well as news releases and other relevant information, is also available on the Directorate of Whistleblower Protection Programs' webpage at: http://www.whistleblowers.gov.

## **Authority and Signature**

James S. Frederick, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Occupational Safety and Health, authorized the preparation of this notice under the authority granted by Section 11(c) of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (29 U.S.C. 660(c)); Secretary's Order 08-2020 (May 15, 2020).

### James. S. Frederick,

Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health.

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